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THURSDAY
DECEMBER 24, 1953

I talked to Jean Monnet this morning. He is in Luxembourg. He was very pleased with the announcement made by President Eisenhower yesterday of his desire to have the American Government make a loan to the Steel and Coal Community. Monnet will now go ahead on the plan for association between the U.K. and the Community. He wishes me to do what I can to influence the British Government to make a statement announcing its assent to the opening of negotiations on this subject.

Bob Thayer came to see me regarding certain matters in his province.

E. and I went with Madame Bousquet to a lunch with Mademoiselle Chanel. This remarkable woman is again taking in hand her dress-making enterprise. She lives above the shop on the Rue Cambon in an apartment filled with interesting objets d'art. She has one room beautifully panelled in sections of Coromandel screens. She was quite fascinating about her long connection with the Duke of Westminster. She has an entirely unique personality, but I fear behaved badly during the war.

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